Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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TIENSVOLD RETIRES FROM STATE LIBRARY

Darleen Tiensvold, Regional Librarian for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH), retired on February 26th. She worked at the Montana State Library for 22 years. Tiensvold started as a circulation librarian and, in 1975, became the LBPH director. With her leadership, services to the blind and physically handicapped of Montana have grown over the past 13 years.

The number of LBPH users has quadrupled since 1975 from 500 to 2000. The full-time staff of the LBPH has grown from one to five. When asked to name her most significant accomplishments as director of the LBPH she is able to name many. Among these are her efforts along with Representative Bud Gould to create the very vital Volunteer Coordinator position. Volunteers contributed 5,055 hours of their time in 1987.

Another of Tiensvold's contributions was her successful effort to establish the two recording booths at the state prison where prisoners record books for the LBPH users.

Her work has not gone unnoticed by her colleagues. She is both a recipient of the Dorothy Bridgeman Award given by the Montana Association for the Blind and of an award from the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind for her services to the blind children of Montana.

Tiensvold has served on the Advisory Councils for Social and Rehabilitative Services and for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

COMMISSION FOCUSES ON LSCA

The Montana State Library Commission met February 17 in Helena. Topics discussed included 1988 Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) funds, a report on recommendations for expending 1989 LSCA funds and the Advisory Council's Long Range Plan. There was also a report from the Continuing Education Committee.

The Advisory Council reported the 1988 LSCA final budget reductions as $4966 from Title I (Public Library Services) and $76 from Title II (Public Library Construction). Title III (Interlibrary Cooperation) will be $1868 more than the anticipated amount. The Commission gave final approval for the following 1988 grants: $15,000 for reference training for Montana librarians, $15,000 for a five school public library demonstration project and $12,000 for the Pacific Northwest Conspectus Database.

There was extensive discussion of the goals expressed in the Advisory Council's Long Range Plan. This was followed by the Commission's approval to release the draft of the Advisory Council's Long Range Plan. Interested parties may contact the State Library for a copy of the plan.

The Commission also approved the advisory council's recommendations for expenditure of 1989 LSCA funds with the

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Larry Thompson, program manager for the Natural Resources and Information System since its inception in 1985, died on February 11th.

Thompson was born in Kalispell in 1948. He attended Montana State University and Washington State University. He moved to Helena in 1974 and worked for the Department of Natural Resource Conservation for 12 years before coming to the State Library and organizing the Natural Resource Information System.

LIBRARIES PLAN FOR NLW

National Library Week (NLW) is April 17th through 23rd. The American Library Association instigated the observance of NLW in 1958 in response to concerns on the parts of American libraries and booksellers that books were losing popularity while television was expanding its audience.

This year's national theme is "The Card with a Charge. Use your Library." The theme expresses the hope that everyone will acquire and will use library cards.

Montana libraries are planning a variety of activities to celebrate the week. Some are tying into the national theme while others are coming up with their own themes.

Flathead Public Library will [illegible] with information about the library's special resources. The placemat promotion was so successful last year, said Alice Lehtinen, Flathead Director, they've ordered even more mats to use for this year.

Georgia Lorang, Flathead County Library Director, reports that the Kalispell library will [illegible] NLW to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Persons who are interested in seeing the "after" part of this series should visit the newly renovated Bitterroot Public Library in Hamilton. The library is planning a formal dedication sometime in April.

WLN TO CHANGE GOVERNANCE

The Western Library Network (WLN), a division of the Washington State Library, would become a private, non profit corporation governed by user representatives, under a proposed plan announced by Nancy Zussy, Washington State Librarian.

The new governance would, according to Zussy, provide more flexibility for making business decisions and broaden the authority over and responsibility for WLN to all states in the network. It would, as well, open up a variety of possibilities for long range funding.

A regional seminar on low vision will be held May 19-21 at the Sheraton in Billings. The seminar, sponsored in part by the State Library, will feature many experts in the field of low vision. Topics of interest to librarians will include the low vision child and recreation and lifestyles of low vision persons. Sharon Cromeenes, seminar coordinator, can be contacted at 442-0665 in Helena.

FAXNET SPONSORS "MARKETING YOUR LIBRARY"

The Montana Faxnet Project is sponsoring a workshop, "Marketing Your Library." The session will last two days; April 26th from noon to 5 P.M. and April 27th from 8:30 to 5 P.M.. Suzanne Walters, Director of Marketing for the Denver Public Library, will address issues pertinent to both large and small libraries. She will tailor the workshop to the needs of Montana librarians.

Registration is limited to the first 15 applicants. The cost of the workshop is $18.00. The fee will cover lunch on the 26th and 27th and a materials packet. The deadline for receiving registration forms is April 20th.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Address: _____

_____

Library/Institution: _____

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 444-2427.

AROUND THE STATE

Rolan Christofferson is the new Terry Public Library librarian. She replaces Bette Dunnam.

The Bozeman Public Library is hosting a lecture series: Montana Writers and the Land. Upcoming speakers include Dr. John Ramage who will speak on Richard Hugo's Lady in Kicking Horse Reservoir on April 12th and Dr. Melody Zajdel speaking on May fifth about pre 1940 popular Westerns. The lectures are being held in the meeting room at the Bozeman Public Library from 7 to 9 P.M. and admission is free.

Updated current **Montana Library Laws** are now available. The new publication will be sent to all Montana Public and Academic libraries. Anyone else who would like a copy of the laws should contact Mary Jane West at the State Library.

Parmly Billings Library signed a contract in December with Dynix Inc. for a computerized circulation control system. Implementation of the system is targeted for spring.

The **Daniels County Library in Scobey** was awarded a $2,000 grant from the Burlington Northern Foundation.

Loren Frederiksen of Helena enjoys listening to a British novel. The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped circulates an average of 1,800 "talking books" a week.

Havre-Hill County Library will host a "Let's Talk about it" series this month featuring discussions of autobiographies by women in honor of Womens' History Month. The discussions are made possible by a grant from the Montana Committee for the Humanities.

Rather than lock the doors on the community's local history collection housed in the Pioneer Museum, the **Glasgow Public Library** is housing the collection during the winter months when the museum is closed.

Librarians should make note in their 1988 directories of **Flathead County Library** in Kalispell's new phone numbers. The new numbers are as follows:
General 752-5600
Circulation 756-3683
I.L.L. 756-3685

The **federations coordinators** announce the following dates of upcoming federation meetings: **Tamarack-April 15 in Hamilton, South Central-April 16 in Billings, Broad Valleys-April 23 in Philipsburg, Pathfinder-May 21 in Havre, Golden Plains-May 12 in Wolf Point.** Federation coordinators may be contacted for more details.

Pathfinder Federation will sponsor a workshop, "Materials Selection" on April 15th from 10 to 3 at the Great Falls Public Library. Public and all other librarians are invited to attend. Interested persons should contact Gloria Anderson at the Great Falls Public Library, 453-0349.

Lea Ripley is the new Libby Site Specialist for the Intermountain Community Learning Information Service (ICLIS) project. Before she was hired as Site Specialist, Ripley assisted with the automation of the library.

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exception of retrospective conversion of OCLC records at Carroll College, the State Law Library and at the Geological Survey.

The Continuing Education Committee's Long Range Plan for Continuing Library Education for 1988 - 1993 by Jane Howell and Mary Bushing, was presented to the Commission.
Persons who are interested in receiving a copy of the report should contact Mary Bushing at the State Library.

Montana State Library Commission

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